

News

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Bureau of Labor Statistics

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**HIGHLIGHTS OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TX
NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY AUGUST 2005**

Workers in the Corpus Christi metropolitan area averaged \$14.50 per hour during August 2005, according to a new survey released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman reported that white-collar workers averaged \$16.72 per hour and accounted for 52 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$14.80 per hour and represented 27 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 21 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$8.62 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments with 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 144 firms representing 68,000 workers in the Corpus Christi metropolitan area, which includes Nueces and San Patricio Counties in Texas. Seventy-one percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Corpus Christi metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 22 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, registered nurses averaged \$24.69 per hour; social workers, \$15.57; and general office clerks, \$9.39. Blue-collar occupations included welders and cutters at \$13.88. In the service occupations, janitors and cleaners averaged \$8.25 per hour and cooks earned \$7.92.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Corpus Christi area averaged \$15.08 per hour and part-timers earned \$8.15. Union workers averaged \$20.68 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.13. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$11.31 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$16.54.

National Compensation Survey, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2005 (continued)

The NCS is part of a statistical program that integrates three previously separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Corpus Christi, TX National Compensation Survey August 2005 (Bulletin 3130-19). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Dallas Information Office by calling 214-767-6970. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>. This release can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Dallas by dialing 214-767-9613 and requesting document 9510.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Dallas Information Office at 214-767-6970 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings¹, all workers²: Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2005

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$14.50	3.5	\$13.26	5.2	\$17.72	3.0
All excluding sales	14.91	3.6	13.69	5.6	17.72	3.0
White collar	16.72	4.5	14.33	6.3	20.96	3.8
White collar excluding sales	18.08	5.5	15.86	8.7	20.96	3.8
Professional specialty and technical	22.74	3.3	20.26	7.6	24.46	1.8
Professional specialty	25.41	2.2	24.78	7.1	25.65	1.5
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related	23.64	3.9	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses	24.69	2.8	24.83	3.1	—	—
Teachers, college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	26.91	.7	—	—	27.02	.6
Elementary school teachers	26.66	.8	—	—	26.66	.8
Secondary school teachers	27.34	.3	—	—	27.34	.3
Teachers, n.e.c.	19.53	21.8	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	15.57	3.9	—	—	15.54	3.9
Social workers	15.57	3.9	—	—	15.54	3.9
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical	15.22	6.0	15.68	7.8	13.61	4.2
Licensed practical nurses	13.90	9.7	14.04	11.3	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	14.67	4.3	—	—	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.87	11.1	29.32	8.5	30.73	23.9
Executives, administrators, and managers	34.34	13.9	—	—	43.11	8.9
Management related	20.00	11.4	—	—	—	—
Sales	10.06	5.7	10.06	5.7	—	—
Sales workers, apparel	8.54	6.9	8.54	6.9	—	—
Cashiers	8.94	3.1	8.94	3.1	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	10.88	4.7	10.88	6.3	10.88	4.9
Secretaries	13.22	6.9	—	—	13.15	6.8
General office clerks	9.39	1.1	—	—	9.42	1.2
Teachers' aides	10.53	1.9	—	—	10.53	1.9
Blue collar	14.80	6.2	15.13	6.6	11.13	5.0
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.90	3.7	16.97	3.6	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	17.44	14.6	17.95	14.4	—	—
Welders and cutters	13.88	8.9	13.88	8.9	—	—
Transportation and material moving	14.96	7.1	15.65	6.8	10.64	2.5
Truck drivers	15.52	11.4	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	9.92	14.0	9.74	16.0	11.32	9.2
Service	8.62	7.4	7.04	9.8	11.61	1.2
Protective service	12.89	16.0	—	—	16.00	3.3
Food service	5.75	13.9	5.39	14.6	8.76	3.4
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	2.77	12.9	2.77	12.9	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	2.31	5.0	2.31	5.0	—	—
Other food service	7.87	1.6	7.67	1.6	8.76	3.4
Cooks	7.92	6.4	—	—	—	—
Food counter, fountain, and related	9.33	4.6	9.33	4.6	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	7.80	1.9	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	6.61	3.8	6.15	3.1	—	—
Health service	8.67	5.3	8.57	7.8	8.88	3.9
Health aides, except nursing	9.86	3.8	—	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	7.92	5.0	7.79	6.4	—	—
Cleaning and building service	8.18	1.9	8.26	4.8	8.12	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings¹, all workers²: Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2005 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Service —Continued						
Cleaning and building service—Continued						
Janitors and cleaners	\$8.25	2.0	—	—	\$8.12	1.5
Personal service	9.95	2.3	\$10.09	0.9	9.58	5.1

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group², National Compensation Survey, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2005

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$15.08	\$8.15	\$20.68	\$14.13	\$14.37	—
All excluding sales	15.35	8.29	20.68	14.54	14.84	—
White collar	17.42	9.40	—	16.74	16.66	—
White-collar excluding sales	18.33	11.96	—	18.10	18.13	—
Professional specialty and technical	22.89	—	—	22.74	22.74	—
Professional specialty	25.61	—	—	25.41	25.41	—
Technical	15.27	—	—	15.22	15.22	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.87	—	—	29.87	29.79	—
Sales	11.10	7.86	—	10.06	9.51	—
Administrative support, including clerical	10.97	9.45	—	10.84	10.56	—
Blue collar	15.13	8.10	20.72	13.80	14.61	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.90	—	22.80	15.25	16.90	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	17.44	—	—	17.13	17.44	—
Transportation and material moving	15.51	—	—	14.84	14.18	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	10.26	6.38	—	8.59	9.92	—
Service	8.99	6.16	—	7.85	8.61	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	4.0	4.2	1.9	3.7	3.8	—
All excluding sales	4.1	6.4	1.9	3.9	3.8	—
White collar	5.1	6.6	—	4.5	4.6	—
White-collar excluding sales	5.7	16.9	—	5.6	5.7	—
Professional specialty and technical	3.3	—	—	3.3	3.3	—
Professional specialty	2.1	—	—	2.2	2.2	—
Technical	6.3	—	—	6.0	6.0	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	11.1	—	—	11.1	11.3	—
Sales	6.4	2.5	—	5.7	2.3	—
Administrative support, including clerical	4.6	24.6	—	4.5	3.5	—
Blue collar	6.3	5.9	1.9	8.8	6.1	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.7	—	3.2	8.3	3.7	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.6	—	—	17.7	14.6	—
Transportation and material moving	6.1	—	—	7.6	3.5	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	14.7	7.6	—	9.1	14.0	—
Service	8.1	12.0	—	7.2	7.5	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information (in full publication).

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A in the full publication.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group², private industry, National Compensation Survey, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2005

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$13.26	\$11.31	\$14.00	\$11.93	\$16.54
All excluding sales	13.69	11.31	14.62	12.59	16.54
White collar	14.33	14.91	14.20	11.03	20.20
White-collar excluding sales	15.86	16.67	15.71	11.84	20.20
Professional specialty and technical	20.26	20.39	20.24	18.25	21.07
Professional specialty	24.78	—	25.07	26.79	24.68
Technical	15.68	—	14.96	—	15.55
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.32	—	30.47	—	—
Sales	10.06	11.29	9.71	9.71	—
Administrative support, including clerical	10.88	13.99	10.21	9.80	11.45
Blue collar	15.13	13.38	15.82	18.87	14.55
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.97	—	16.88	20.70	15.03
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	17.95	12.73	22.27	—	—
Transportation and material moving	15.65	—	15.67	—	14.68
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	9.74	—	11.07	8.08	12.26
Service	7.04	5.71	8.28	8.12	9.28
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	5.2	12.9	6.2	7.7	8.0
All excluding sales	5.6	14.6	6.8	9.6	8.0
White collar	6.3	8.2	7.8	3.8	5.4
White-collar excluding sales	8.7	6.5	10.5	8.5	5.4
Professional specialty and technical	7.6	5.0	8.8	20.4	8.0
Professional specialty	7.1	—	7.8	26.6	6.7
Technical	7.8	—	8.4	—	7.6
Executive, administrative, and managerial	8.5	—	11.6	—	—
Sales	5.7	19.3	1.8	1.8	—
Administrative support, including clerical	6.3	13.1	4.1	3.8	5.8
Blue collar	6.6	16.1	6.6	11.7	8.5
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.6	—	3.9	6.0	10.2
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.4	9.0	9.6	—	—
Transportation and material moving	6.8	—	3.7	—	.7
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	16.0	—	15.8	4.4	18.9
Service	9.8	10.6	8.8	10.4	5.0

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information (in full publication).

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A in the full publication.

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